

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: GTE MIDWEST INCORPORATED	DOCKET NO. RFU-99-8
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ORDER APPROVING REFUND PLAN

(Issued October 5, 1999)

On May 20, 1996, GTE Midwest Incorporated (GTE) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a proposed schedule for implementing dialing parity in its intraLATA dialing system. The proposal included a cost recovery tariff, identified as TF-96-209. The tariff was docketed for investigation as Docket No. RPU-96-6. The tariff was ultimately approved by the Board and became effective on July 16, 1997. Pursuant to Section 4.2.23 of the tariff, GTE recovered the cost of implementing intraLATA dialing parity through a charge assessed to each originating intrastate access minute of use. The charge was based upon an estimate of the total cost of implementing intraLATA dialing parity and was to be collected only for a sufficient time period to permit recovery of the actual cost of implementing intraLATA dialing parity. The estimated charge was subject to a true-up after the actual costs were determined to correct any over- or under-collection that might occur.

On October 12, 1998, GTE notified the Board by letter that it had completed its intraLATA dialing parity conversion process. The actual costs of implementing

dialing parity were somewhat lower than the original estimates. On June 25, 1999, GTE proposed in a filing identified as TF-99-99 to cease billing and collecting the dialing parity charge. The Board approved TF-99-99 on April 15, 1999, effective on April 30, 1999.

Despite the termination of the dialing parity charge on April 30, 1999, GTE's collections under TF-96-209 exceeded the actual cost of implementing intraLATA dialing parity by \$28,568. With the present filing, GTE proposes to refund the over-collection to the interexchange carriers that paid the charge. The refunds will be based upon each carrier's minutes of usage during the time the charge was collected. The refunds will be made in the form of a bill credit to each carrier's Billing Account Number.

The Board has reviewed GTE's refund proposal and finds it to be in compliance with the true-up requirement of the Board's order in Docket No. RPU-96-6. No objections to the proposed refund plan have been filed. The Board finds the proposed refund plan is reasonable and should be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The proposed refund plan filed by GTE Midwest Incorporated on August 20, 1999, and identified as Docket No. RFU-99-8 is approved.

2. GTE is directed to file a report detailing the results of its refund plan no later than November 1, 1999.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 5th day of October, 1999.